

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A computer system, comprising:

5 a display device;

a first computer adapted to execute a client program for generating a first request
to a second computer to display a text string upon the display device;

10 wherein the second computer is coupled to the display device and is adapted to
receive the first request and execute a graphic server program to forward a
second request to the first computer if a graphic representation is
unavailable on the second computer; and,

15 wherein the first computer is adapted to execute a font server program for
responding to the second request by creating and thereafter forwarding a
new graphic representation of the text string to the second computer to
make the new graphic representation available to the display.

20 2. The computer system as recited in claim 1, wherein the graphic server program in
the second computer is further adapted to display a graphic representation of the text
string on the display device if the graphic representation is available on the second
computer.

25 3. The computer system as recited in claim 1, wherein the second computer is further
adapted to store the new graphical representation within a cache memory of the second
computer when the new graphical representation is forwarded to the second computer.

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4. The computer system as recited in claim 1, wherein the first and second computers use an operating system selected from a group consisting of Unix, AIX, OS/390 and Linux.

5. The computer system as recited in claim 1, wherein the graphic representation and the new graphic representation comprise respective bit maps which, when presented to the display, produce an image of highlighted pixels thereon.

6. The computer system as recited in claim 1, wherein the network comprises an X Window graphical interface.

7. The computer system as recited in claim 1, wherein the client program is a Java application program.

8. The computer system as recited in claim 1, wherein the new graphic representation is created by a font rasterizer within a Java virtual machine (JVM) running in the first computer.

9. The computer system as recited in claim 1, wherein the second request for the text string forwarded from the second computer to the first computer comprises an X logical font descriptor.

10. A method for displaying a text string created by a first computer on a display device coupled to a second computer, comprising:

presenting a first request to display a text string to the second computer;

forwarding a second request for the text string to the first computer if a graphic representation of the text string is unavailable on the second computer; and

in response to said forwarding of the second request, creating a new graphic representation of the text string in the first computer and forwarding the new graphic representation to the second computer.

5 11. The method as recited in claim 10, further comprising displaying the text string on the display device if the graphic representation is available on the second computer.

12. The method as recited in claim 10, further comprising displaying the text string on the display device using the new graphic representation of the text string.

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13. The method as recited in claim 10, wherein displaying comprises executing a graphics server program on the second computer to present the graphic representation on the display.

15 14. The method as recited in claim 10, wherein creating the new graphic representation of the text string comprises executing a font rasterizer within a Java virtual machine within the first computer.

15. The method as recited in claim 10, wherein creating the new graphic
20 representation of the text string comprises using a known set of fonts present in the first computer, rather than using an unknown set of fonts present in the second computer.

16. The method as recited in claim 10, wherein forwarding the new graphic
25 representation to the second computer comprises executing a font server program stored in the first computer.

17. The method as recited in claim 10, further comprising storing the new graphical representation within a cache memory of the second computer when the new graphical representation is forwarded to the second computer.

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18. The method as recited in claim 10, wherein the second request for the graphic representation of the text string forwarded from the second computer to the first computer over the network contains a modified X logical font descriptor.

5 19. A computer-readable storage device, comprising:

a client program executable upon a first computer for generating a text string and forwarding a first request to display the text string to a second computer;

10 a graphics server program executable upon the second computer for responding to the first request from the first computer by forwarding a second request for the text string to the first computer, if a graphic representation of the text string is unavailable on the second computer; and

15 a font server program executable on the first computer for responding to the second request from the second computer by creating and thereafter forwarding a new graphic representation of the text string to the second computer.

20 20. The computer readable storage device as recited in claim 19, wherein the graphics server program is further adapted to display the text string if the graphic representation of the text string is available on the second computer.

25 21. The computer readable storage device as recited in claim 19, wherein the graphic representation and the new graphic representation comprise respective bit maps which, when presented to the display, produce an image of highlighted pixels thereon.

30 22. The computer readable storage device as recited in claim 19, further comprising a font rasterizer within a Java virtual machine (JVM) adapted to run on the first computer to create the new graphical representation.

23. The computer readable storage device as recited in claim 19, wherein the graphics server program, upon receiving the graphical representation forwarded by the font server program, stores said graphical representation in a cache memory attributable to the second computer.

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24. The computer readable storage device as recited in claim 19, further comprising an operating system selected from the group consisting of Unix, AIX, OS/390 and Linux adapted to run upon the first and second computers.

10 25. The computer readable storage device as recited in claim 19, further comprising an X window graphical interface program executable upon the first and second computers to effectuate a network connection.

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FOOTNOTES